

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in the application. It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner has allowed Claim 4. The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawyer et al. (U.S. Patent 5,946,629) in view of Shirai (U.S. Patent 6,104,924). Sawyer et al. discloses a cellular telephone network having short message service interaction with other networks; Shirai discloses virtual terminal protocol using text messaging.

Claim 1 of the present application recites, “transmitting the SMS message to a destination mobile terminal if it is determined that the forwarding function is set”; Claim 3 of the present application recites, “requesting transmission of the SMS message from the called MC to a destination MC if it is determined that the forwarding function is set; and checking the subscriber information of a destination mobile terminal in the destination MC and transmitting the SMS message from the destination MC to the destination mobile terminal.” The Examiner cites Shirai as disclosing “transmitting the SMS message to a destination mobile terminal if it is determined that the forwarding function is set” of Claim 1, and “transmitting the SMS message from the destination MC to the destination mobile terminal” of Claim 3. Shirai merely discloses using a message service to set a call forwarding mode, and does not transmit a short message to a destination mobile terminal if a call forwarding mode is set. By combining Sawyer et al. and Shirai all that would result is a terminal that uses message protocol to set call forwarding, with no short message being forwarded.

I. As to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of Claim 1

Shirai relates to a SMS-VT protocol for transmitting the predetermined “script” to the mobile station so as to provide the mobile station user interface that corresponds to each application. However, Shirai fails to disclose or teach these technical features in view of the forwarding of a SMS message. “A call forwarding operation” as described in column 3, lines 23-26 of Shirai merely means a technical feature for forwarding a voice call. This is clearly shown in col. 4, lines 17-20 of Shirai “(1) call origination to predetermined numbers stored in the scripts themselves; (2) call origination to user-specified numbers”.

In addition, Shirai discloses a communication protocol that involves the transmitting of the SMS message from a mobile station to a fixed station (e.g., a host computer) as described in col. 2, lines 11-16. In this regard, the destination mobile terminal of the present invention can in

no way correspond to the above fixed station of Shirai, since the fixed station is not targeted with the forwarding the SMS message.

II. As to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) in Claim 3

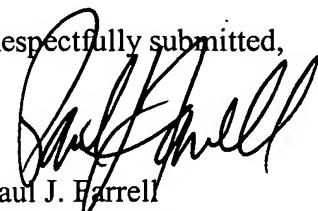
The aforementioned arguments presented with regards to Claim 1 also apply to Claim 3.

In brief, Sawyer merely discloses a cellular telephone network having SMS (short message service) interaction with other networks. Further, Shirai discloses a method for providing a mobile station user interface. However, the present invention provides a method of determining terminal in the MC (message center) if a forwarding function is set for a called mobile and transmitting a SMS message to a destination mobile terminal. Comparing the subject matter of the claim of the present application with that of the cited references, it is deemed that an expert skilled in the art could not have invented the present invention from a combination of the cited references. Based on at least the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejections of Claims 1 and 3 are respectfully requested.

Independent Claims 1 and 3 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claim 2, this is likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of its dependence on its respective amended independent claim. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of dependent Claim 2 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-4, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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